4. No individual to be allowed to contest from more than two constituencies.

5. Non-serious candidates to be discourages. Security deposit of independent candidates to be raised. Forfeiture of security deposit for failure to secure less than 1/4th of the votes polled.

6. Statutory backing for important provisions of model Code of Conduct.

7. Use of electronic voting machines in all future elections.

8. A series of legislative measures to be undertaken to eradicate booth capturing, rigging and intimidation of voters.

9. State funding in kind to a limited extent to recognised political parties, to begin with.

10. Plying of automobiles, carrying of firearms, sale and distribution of liquor on poll day to be electoral offences.

11. Disqualification under Anti-defection law to be restricted to voluntary resignation and voting or abstention against party whip only in the case of vote of confidence, money bill or vote of thanks to the President. President or Governor to decide the issue of disqualification after obtaining the Election Commission's opinion.

12. Constitution of an Expert Committee to go further into the question of change of the present electoral system.

13. A standing Committee to the Parliament to go into all electoral matters.

Conversion of Salem Steel Rolling Plant into a Full-Fledged Steel Plant

1732. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:
SHRI J.S. RAJU:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is Central Government's plan for the conversion of Salem Steel Rolling Plant into a full-fledged Steel Plant which is a long felt need; and

(b) by when the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) There is presently no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Illegal Mining Around Delhi

1733. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the Hindustan (Hindi) of the 9th May, 1990 to the effect that three persons including two women have died due to an accident in Badarpur mines in Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that illegal mining is going on in and around Delhi and workers are exploited by the contractors;

(c) if so, what are Government's plans to check illegal mining and by when; and

(d) whether any financial help will be given to the families of the deceased?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The accident, however, occurred near Mahipalpur stone mines.

(b) and (c) Instances of illegal mining are reported from time to time. The Collector of Mines and Quarries, Delhi Administration has taken various steps to curb illegal mining which include launching of prosecution and lodging FIRs with the local police. In order to ensure safe and scientific mining all the

mining activities in the Union Territory of Delhi have been entrusted to Delhi State Mineral Development Corporation which is owned by Government. As the accident site falls within the Delhi Military Cantonment Area, Delhi Administration has taken up the matter with the concerned Military authorities.

Setting up of Export Promotion Zones for Gold Ornaments and Jewellery

1734. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed the setting up of export promotion zones for gold ornaments and jewellery etc. after the repeal of the Gold Control Act recently;

(b) if so, how many such zones have been set up so far in the country, State-wise and what has been their export performance so far; and

(c) whether Government propose to open more such zones in other parts of the country, especially in Jaipur; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export of Minerals

1735. SHRI RAMDAS AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the export figures of minor and major minerals during the period 1988-89 upto 31-3-1990 alongwith the names of the countries to which the minerals were exported; and

(b) what are the details of imports of minerals during the above mentioned period along with the names of the countries from which minerals were imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Figures of exports of minor and major minerals during the year 1988-89 and latest availabe figures for the year 1989-90 (April-December, 1989) are estimated at Rs. 1027.13 crores and Rs. 900.88 crores respectively. Minerals are mainly exported to Australia, Bangladesh, China, GDR, Hungary, Italy, Japan, North Korea, Romania, South Korea, Turkey and USA.

(b) Figures of imports of minerals during the year 1988-89 and latest available figures for the year 1989-90 (April-Dec '89) are estimated at Rs. 1082.69 crores and Rs. 976.29 crores respectively. These are mainly imported from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, FRG, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Singapore, UAE, UK, USA and USSR.

Mining Lease Granted by Government

1736. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) how many mining leases have been granted by Government during 1989 so far, State-wise;

(b) how many applications are still pending with Government for want of clearance from environmental angle upto 31.3.90; and

(c) whether all the applications in this regard are likely to be cleared during the current year and if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.